

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2757

JCS FOR J-5 (WHEM)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS CO

SUBJECT: COLOMBIAN MAP TRAINING PROGRAM

1. RECENT VERY FAVORABLE EXPERIENCES WITH CALIBER AND UTILITY OF TNG CONDUCTED IN SPANISH AT THE USARMY SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS (USARSA), CANAL ZONE HAVE GENERATED A COLOMBIAN ARMY REQUEST TO ANNUALLY TRAIN AT THAT FACILITY GRADUATING CLASSES OF THE COLOMBIAN ARMY MILITARY ACADEMY AND THE MARINE CONTINGENT OF THE GRADUATING NAVAL ACADEMY CLASS. THE HOST GOVERNMENT'S ENTHUSIASTIC INTEREST IN THIS CADET TNG OPPORTUNITY WAS KINDLED AS FOLLOWS: IN LATE CY 74 AN ORIENTATION TEAM FROM THE CANAL ZONE PRESENTED A BRIEFING TO THE COLOMBIAN MILITARY COMMAND TO GENERATE INTEREST IN CADET TNG AT USARSA. AS A RESULT OF THAT BRIEFING, A PILOT PROGRAM WAS OBTAINED WHICH RESULTED IN THE TNG OF 31 ARMY AND 9 MARINE CADETS FOR 4 WEEKS IN INTERNAL SECURITY OPNS AT USARSA IN JUL 75. THIS TNG MET WITH ENTHUSIASM FROM ALL QUARTERS AND RESULTED IN A REQUEST BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMY TO TRAIN THEIR ENTIRE MID-YEAR GRAUDATING CLASS CONSISTING OF 180 CADETS. IN ADDITION, THEY REQUESTED THAT THE 4 WEEK TNG COURSE BE EXTENDED BY 2 WEEKS IN ORDER TO ADD BASIC ABN TNG TO THE CIRRICULUM. THIS ADDITION TO CIRRICULUM WAS APPROVED, ADDITIONAL FY 76 MAP-T FUNDS WERE OBTAINED AFTER SOME DIFFICULTY, AND THE TNG WAS ACCOMPLISHED AT USARSA DURING JAN-FEB 1976. FY 76 MAP-T FUNDS TO SUPPORT

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THIS CLASS WERE OBTAINED BY REPROGRAMMING FUNDS FROM WITHIN

LATIN AMERICAN MAP-T RESOURCES, AND TWO MAJOR CONCESSIONS BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMY. SPECIFICALLY, THE SOLUTION TO THE FUNDING PROBLEM WAS AS FOLLOWS:

TOTAL AMT REQ'D TO TRAIN 180 CADETS:	\$193K
AMT IN ORIG FY 76 MAP-T PROGRAM FOR	
40 CADETS:	\$30K
TRANSFER OF FUNDS ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED	
FOR CHILE:	\$100 K
REPROGRAMMING ACTIONS FROM WITHIN	
USMILGP MAP-5 RESOURCES:	\$27K
COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE PROVIDED ROUNDTRIP	
TRANSPORT AT NO EXPENSE TO US GOVT;	\$25K
COLOMBIAN ARMY FORFEITED NORMAL INCIDENTAL	
ALLOWANCES OF \$1.50/DAY/STUDENT:	\$11K
TOTAL:	\$193K

IT IS SIGNIFICANT TO NOTE THAT THE COLOMBIAN ARMY ABSORBED OR FORFEITED FUNDS AMOUNTING TO ALMOST 20 PERCENT OF THE NORMAL MAP COST. AGAIN THIS TNG WAS RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS, SO MUCH SO THAT THEY HAVE REQUESTED EQUAL TNG FOR EACH MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATING CLASS AS WELL AS ALL MARINE OFFICER CANDIDATES FROM THEIR NAVAL ACADEMY.

2. QUANTITATIVE SUMMARY OF CADET TNG ACCOMPLISHED OR REQUESTED FOLLOWS FOR 6-YEAR PERIOD CY 1975-CY 1980:

CY	NO. GRADUATES/DATES	GRADUATE NO.	US TNG/DATE/COST/FY
75	&180 DEC &40	JUL 75	& \$34K 75
76	200 JUN &180	JAN 76	\$157K 76
	296 DEC 296	JUL 76	\$298K 77
77	152 DEC 152	JUL 77	\$153K 77
78	216 DEC 216	JUL 78	\$218K 78
79	216 DEC 216	JUL 79	\$218K 79
80	216 DEC 216	JUL 80	\$218K 80

& ACTUAL NUMBERS, ALL OTHERS PROJECTED.

NOTES: A. CY 75 REFLECTS PILOT PROGRAM WHICH INITIATED THIS CADET TNG REQUIREMENT.

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B. CY 76 REFLECTS A UNIQUE YEAR IN WHICH THERE ARE TWO GRADUATING CLASSES. THIS SITUATION WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY GOC EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF JUNIOR OFFICERS DURING A TIME OF INCREASED INTERNAL SECURITY OPNS REQUIREMENTS WITHIN COLOMBIA. THIS SITUATION IS NOT EXPECTED TO REPEAT ITSELF IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

C. PROJECTED COST FIGURES ARE BASED ON CURRENT USARSA COURSE

COST OF \$143/STUDENT/WEEK. COSTS ALSO REFLECT TWO MAJOR CONCESSIONS BY COLOMBIAN ARMY IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN TNG. ONE, COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE PROVIDES ROUND-TRIP TRANSPORTATION AT NO EXPENSE TO US; AND, TWO, CADETS FORFEIT NORMAL INCIDENTAL ALLOWANCE AUTHORIZED FMT AT USARSA AT RATE OF \$1.50 PER MAN PER DAY NORMALLY FUNDED BY MAP-T.

D. THERE ARE SOME INDICATIONS THAT MAP TNG COSTS AT USARSA MAY INCREASE FROM \$143 TO \$220 PER STUDENT WEEK DURING THE FY-7T PERIOD. IF THIS NEW COST FIGURE IS APPLIED TO THE ABOVE SUMMARY, THE FY-7T COST WOULD INCREASE TO \$435K, AND THE FY 77 COST WOULD INCREASE TO \$223K, AND FY 78 AND BEYOND WOULD INCREASE TO \$318K.

3. I AM FULLY COGNIZANT OF THE CURRENT ACTIVITY OF RECOMPUTING MAP-TNG UNIT COURSE COSTS AND THE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT THAT WILL BE CASUED BY THESE COST INCREASES ON THE WORLDWIDE FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM. NOTWITHSTANDING THAT PROBABILITY, IT REMAINS MY VIEW THAT THIS CADET TRAINING AS REQUESTED BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMY RESULTS IN SIZEABLE DIVIDENDS TO US OBJECTIVES IN THIS COUNTRY AND SHOULD BE FULLY FUNDED AND SUPPORTED. SINCE THE SOLE SOURCES OF COLOMBIAN ARMY AND MARINE OFFICERS ARE THE SERVICE ACADEMIES, THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE VIRTUALLY ALL YOUNG CADETS ON THE EVE OF COMMISSIONING TO IMPRESSIVE US MILITARY PERSONNEL AND TNG WILL PRODUCE LASTING ADVANTAGES. FURTHER, IT IS MY VIEW THAT THE US GOVT HAS REAPED VALUABLE ADVANTAGES FROM AN EXTREMELY AUSTERE MAP-T PROGRAM OVER THE YEARS EVEN BEFORE CADET TRAINING WAS INJECTED INTO CONSIDERATION. UNTIL THE NEW COURSE COSTS ARE DEFINED, QUANTIFICATION OF THEIR IMPACT ON THE PROGRAM IS IMPOSSIBLE. I AM CERTAIN HOWEVER, THAT A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF THE TRAINING DESIRED BY THE COLOMBIAN ARMED FORCES WILL HAVE TO BE FORFEITED IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE THE INCREASED COSTS IN HIGHER PRIORITY COURSES. EVEN WITHOUT CONSIDRING THE CADET
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TRAINING. IN THE FACE OF THIS IMPACT OF COURSE COST INCREASES THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR COLOMBIA CANNOT ABSORB THE ADDITIONAL IMPACT OF THIS NEW TRAINING OBJECTIVE WITHIN ITS CURRENT CEILINGS. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO OBTAIN THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS AND HIGHER CEILINGS REQUIRED FOR THIS CADET TNG AS AN ADD-ON TO CURRENTLY APPROVED LEVELS.

4. I REQUEST ADDITION OF \$298K TO THE FY 7T AND \$153K TO THE FY 77 MAP-T PROGRAMS FOR COLOMBIA TO ACCOMMODATE THIS CADET TNG AND TO INCREASE OUR COUNTRY CEILINGS ACCORDINGLY.

FURTHER REQUEST THAT OUT-YEAR CEILINGS BE ADJUSTED TO REFLECT INCREASES AS INDICATED IN PAR2. WITHOUT THESE INCREASES, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO PROVIDE THIS TRAINING

TO ONLY A FRACTION OF THE GRADUATING CLASSES, OR PERHAPS
NONE AT ALL IN VIEW OF THE AS YET UNDEFINED COST INCREASES.
GDS-82.
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